

APPEARED
A9

Approved For Release 2005/11/28 : CIA-RDP91-00901R000600310002-9

WASHINGTON POST
3 March 1986

Document File

WHO'S ON FIRST?

Today's document file is a needed corrective to what the Central Intelligence Agency rightly identified as an error in the Quiz that appeared on this page Feb. 24.

The Washington Post made the same error in its obituary of Admiral Sidney W. Souers on Jan. 18, 1973.



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Phone: (703) 351-7676

27 February 1986

Mr. Leonard Downie, Jr.
Managing Editor
THE WASHINGTON POST
1150 15th Street, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20071

Dear Len:

Your "Federal Report" page of 24 February gives the wrong answer to its quiz question, "who was the first director of the Central Intelligence Agency?" It was not Rear Admiral Sidney W. Souers, as the quiz answer states, but rather Rear Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter.

Admiral Souers was indeed the first Director of Central Intelligence, taking charge of a new interdepartmental organization called the Central Intelligence Group from January to June 1946. But as you note elsewhere on the same page, the Central Intelligence Agency was not established until after Congress enacted the National Security Act of 1947. Admiral Hillenkoetter, the third Director of Central Intelligence, was the first director of CIA when it was formed on September 18, 1947.

I would appreciate THE POST running a correction.

Sincerely,

George V. Lauder
George V. Lauder
Director, Public Affairs

RECEIVED
ON FILE A9

WASHINGTON POST
24 February 1986

QUIZ:

*Who was the first director of the
Central Intelligence Agency?*

QUIZ ANSWER

*Rear Adm. Sidney W.
Souers was the first CIA
director. He was also the first
executive secretary of the
National Security Council.*

Souers Estate Set At \$10,304,595

The late R. Adm. Sidney W. Souers, the first director of what eventually became the Central Intelligence Agency, left an estate valued at

\$10,304,595, according to an inventory filed in St. Louis Probate Court.

Adm. Souers, who was also an adviser to the late President Harry S. Truman and later board chairman of General American Life Insurance Co., died Jan. 14.

Half of the estate will go to Adm. Souers's wife, Sylvia. The other half will go to 20 charities through a charitable trust administered by St. Louis Union Trust Co.

Adm. Souers held directorships or trusteeships in the Bi-State Development Agency, St. Luke's Hospital, Lindenwood College, Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Souers and her attorney, Paul G. Ochterbeck, refused to disclose which charities would benefit from Adm. Souers's estate.



ADM. SIDNEY SOUERS

Admiral, First CIA Director

Rear Adm. Sidney W. Souers, 80, the first executive secretary of the National Security Council, died Sunday in St. Louis.

Adm. Souers served as Security Council executive secretary from 1947 to 1950. He was also the first director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, he was a graduate of Miami University in Ohio and was commissioned a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1929.

He was promoted to rear admiral in 1945, when he was made deputy chief of naval intelligence.

Adm. Souers then played a leading role as representative of the late Navy Secretary James B. Forrestal in the creation of the CIA.

He was a consultant to the late President Harry S. Truman during the Korean War. He left Washington in 1953 and became board chairman of the General American Life Insurance Co.

He also had been an executive of a number of other firms in Atlanta, Houston and Catron, Mo., as well as in New York, Chicago, New Orleans and Memphis. He had served on a number of college boards, including the board of trustees of George Washington University.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia.

THE AFRICA DOS

As British influence in Africa declined, so did British secret service sending hundreds of agents to African capitals like Accra, Lagos to buttress "sensitive" states against communism and protect

E. H. Cookridge continues his exclusive series on the CIA

THE adventurous operations often bordering on the bizarre which the Central Intelligence Agency pursued in many parts of the world are usually ascribed to one man: Allen Dulles. They culminated in the abortive invasion of Cuba in 1961. When Dulles departed from the directorship of CIA after the Bay of Pigs debacle, he certainly left an indelible stamp of his influence as the architect of the mighty CIA edifice and its worldwide ramifications.

The policy of his successors has, however, been no less forceful. CIA activities under its present director, Richard McGarrah Helms, may appear less aggressive because they are being conducted with greater caution and less publicity, and because they have been adroitly adjusted to the changing climate in international politics. In the past CIA gained notoriety by promoting revolutions in Latin American banana republics, and supporting anti-communist regimes in South-East Asia. Its operations in Africa were more skilfully camouflaged. For many years they had been on a limited scale because the CIA had relied on the British secret service to provide intelligence from an area where the British had unsurpassed experience and long-established sources of information. But with the emergence of the many African independent countries, the wave of "anti-colonialist" emotions, and the growing infiltration of Africa by Soviet and Chinese "advisers", British influence declined. Washington forcefully stepped, through CIA, into the breach, with the avowed aim of containing communist expansion.

Financial investments in new industrial and mining enterprises, and lavish economic aid to the emerging governments of the "underdeveloped" countries, paved the road for the influx of hundreds of CIA agents. Some combined their intelligence assignments with genuine jobs as technical, agricultural and scientific advisers.

The British Government - particularly after the Labour Party had come to power in 1964 - withdrew most of their SIS and MI5 officials from African capitals, though some remained, at the request of the new rulers, to organise their own new intelligence and security services. CIA



A bloodless coup in Uganda in January last year installed Major-General Idi Amin as military ruler (Amin is seen here with a section of his troops). How far was the CIA involved in the coup? A pro-rebel poster in Santa Domingo.



men began hurriedly to establish their "stations" in Accra, Lagos, Nairobi, Kampala, Dar-es-Salaam, Lusaka, the "sensitive areas" in danger of slipping under communist sway.

By the mid-1960s several senior CIA officials, such as Thomas J. Gunning and Edward Foy, both former U.S. Army Intelligence officers, were firmly established at Accra. They were later joined by William B. Edmondson, who had already gained his spurs in East Africa. He was a tall, dark, attractive, motherly woman, whom no one would have suspected of hav-

ing served for many years as a skilful FBI agent before joining CIA and being employed at Addis Ababa, Nairobi, and Dar-es-Salaam, acquiring fluency in Swahili. By 1965 the Accra CIA Station had two-score active operators, distributing largesse among President Nkrumah's secret adversaries.

The Americans had every intention of helping Ghana's economy by building, in co-operation with a British consortium, the Volta Dam, thus providing hydro-electric power for the